



The President's Daily Brief

5 November 1970

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Communists in northeastern Cambodia appear to be antagonizing the local populace. (Page 1)

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In Laos, the Communists are [redacted] stepping up their resistance to harassment farther south. (Page 3)

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[redacted] Soviet [redacted] Page 4.

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Guatemala [redacted] (Page 4)

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USSR [redacted] (Page 4)

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CAMBODIA

[redacted]
[redacted] Communist alienation of the local population in some areas of northeastern Cambodia where the Communist presence was initially accepted. Among local grievances [redacted] are the Communist restrictions on travel, heavy food requisitions, and summary justice. In addition, local Cambodian Communists are disgruntled by the subsidiary role assigned to them by the Vietnamese.

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[redacted]
The burden of the Vietnamese Communists in extending their Laotian infiltration network southward and securing new supply routes and base areas is not lightened by the problems of trying to govern an increasingly hostile population without politically reliable Cambodian cadres.

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Elsewhere in Cambodia, the Communists are doing somewhat better. In an area about 20 miles north of Phnom Penh, for example, [redacted]

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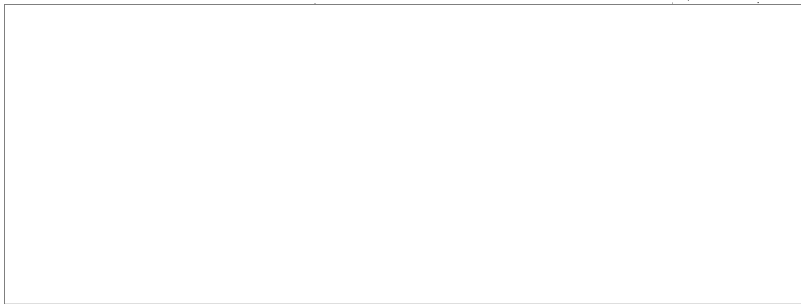
[redacted] the Communists have had some success with their propaganda efforts to link the Lon Nol government with misbehaving South Vietnamese troops. As a result, the Communists have been able to get cooperation from some respected local leaders.

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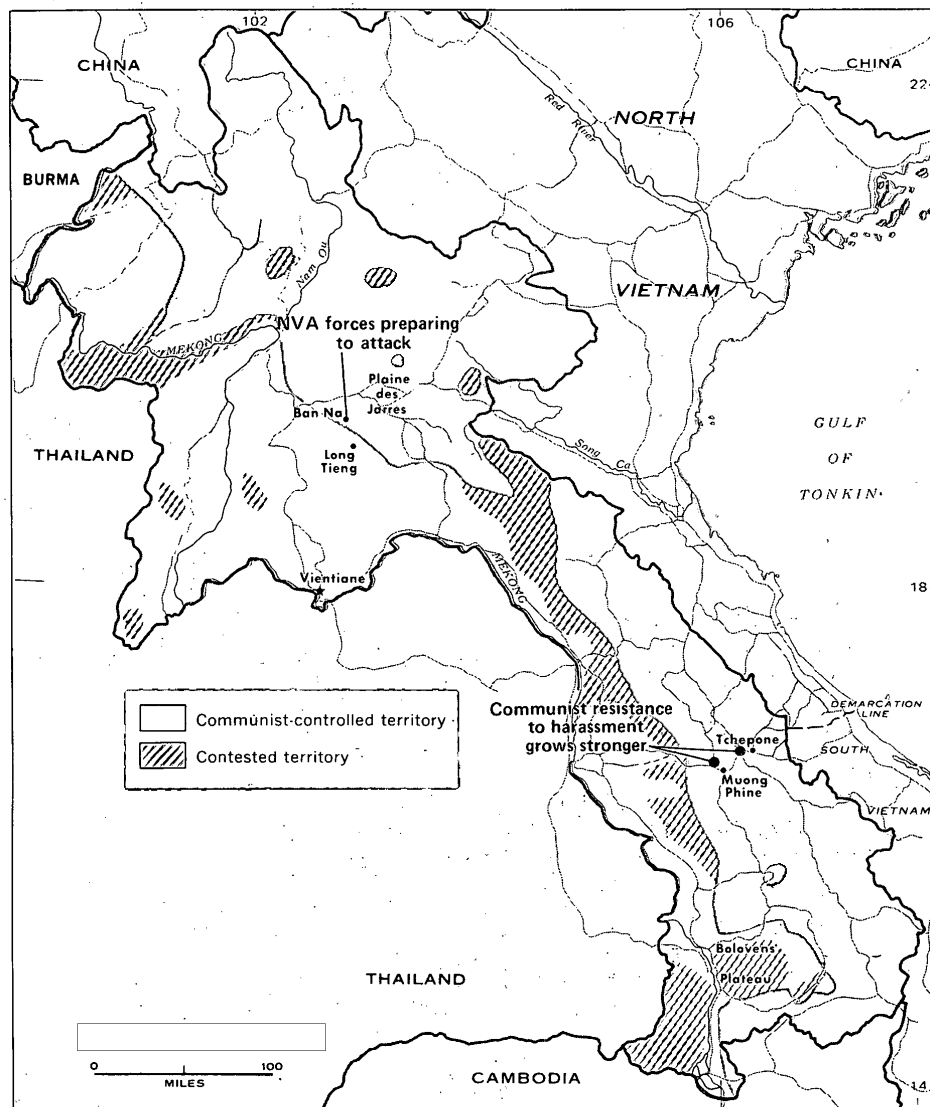
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LAOS: Current Situation



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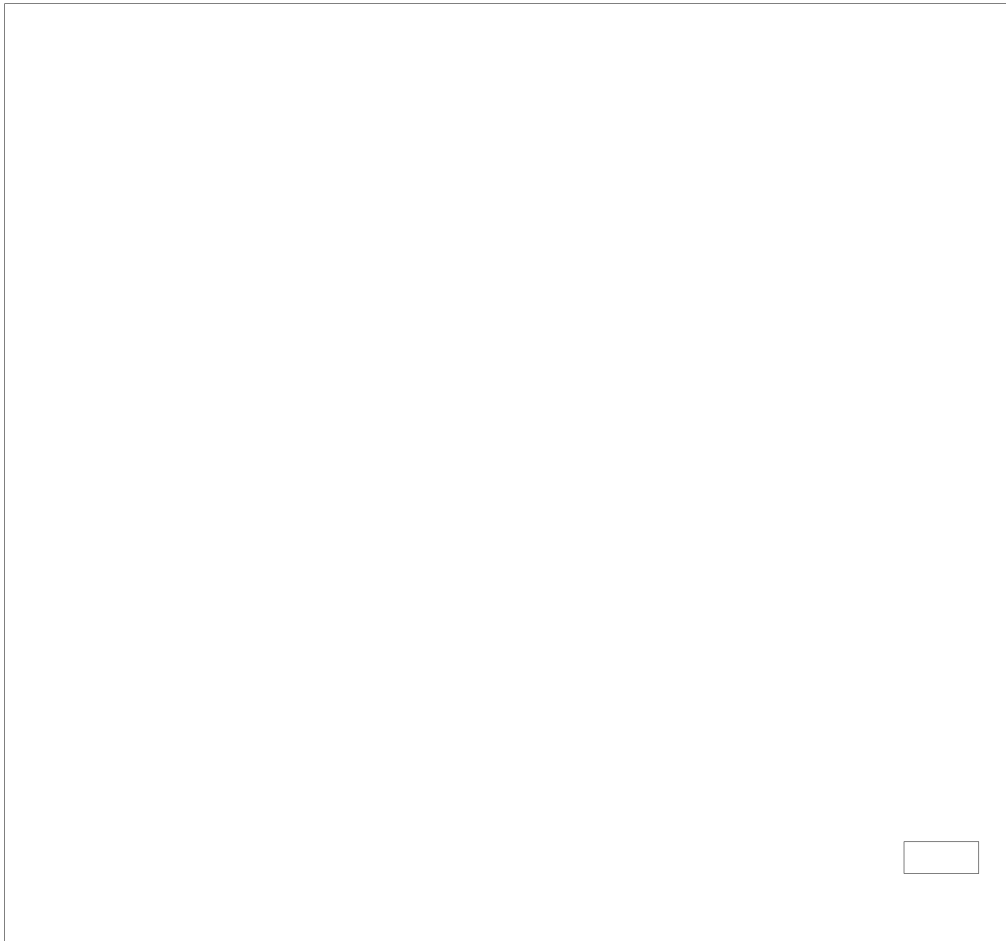
LAOS

Intercepts indicate that North Vietnamese forces are preparing additional attacks to retake government positions near Ban Na along the southwestern edge of the Plaine des Jarres. The Communists could launch some attacks soon, but a major assault would require more time to bring up sufficient troops and supplies, as Communist forces in the immediate area are outnumbered about 2 to 1 by recently reinforced government troops.

In southern Laos, the six government battalions operating near Muong Phine and Tchepone are continuing to mine roads and inflict substantial casualties on enemy units protecting supply lines. Communist resistance has grown significantly stronger in the past two days, however, and the government battalions are now trying to disengage from heavy fighting.

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NOTES

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